Patient Reported Quality of Life (QoL) Measures After Open and Endo AAA Repair: Which is Better?

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Background
• Previous claims about quality of life (QoL) of patients with AAA poorly substantiated
• Earlier studies have yielded conflicting results
• Generic tools have been used
• All have examined Health-Status (HS) rather than QoL

Aims
• To develop and validate 3 new condition-specific questionnaires to assess:
  - QoL
  - Symptoms
  - Treatment satisfaction
in patients with AAA, both pre-operatively and following endovascular (EVAR) or open repair (OR)
• Preliminary data on outcomes

Methods
• 54 patients from 5 vascular units recruited to participate in focus groups and 1-to-1 interviews
• Relevant symptoms, QoL and treatment issues were elicited and used to generate items for the 3 new tools
• New tools completed by 197 patients from 5 units
• Data were used for psychometric validation and preliminary analysis of outcomes

Disclosures
• None

3 new aneurysm-specific questionnaires
• **Aneurysm-TSQ** (Aneurysm Treatment Satisfaction Questionnaire)
  - 11 items
  - One scale for both pre- & post-op patients (Cronbach’s α=0.87)
  - One for post-op only (Cronbach’s α=0.90)
• **Aneurysm-SRQ** (Aneurysm Symptom Rating Questionnaire)
  - 44 items
  - Five subscales: Emotional; Cognitive; Lower-limb; Gastrointestinal; Malaise (α=0.73-0.88)
• **Aneurysm-DQoL** (Aneurysm-Dependent Quality of Life measure)
  - 20 items
  - Single scale (α=0.96) and two overview items: generic & condition-specific QoL.
3 new aneurysm-specific questionnaires

- Aneurysm-DQoL items are individualised so that patients can indicate
  - when items are not relevant to them
  - how important each aspect of life is to their QoL.

Results
average weighted impact score – QoL

Results – symptom bother

Results – treatment satisfaction

Conclusions

- 3 new tools have been designed and validated to assess QoL, symptoms and treatment satisfaction in patients with AAA
- EVAR – QoL ↑, satisfaction ↑ but symptom bother ↑
- More analysis required EVAR / OR (adjustment)
- Useful tools for research / audit